

In determining the progress of any institution, it is necessary to compare current figures with those of previous years. In the case of the library, the figures in which the staff and the public are most interested are: circulation, registration, number of books in collection, number of books added, and cost of operation.

CIRCULATION OF BOOK AND OTHER LIBRARY MATERIALS

During the year 1953-54, the Public Library loaned 229,475 books to the residents of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. Compared with 195,239 over the previous year, this is an increase of 17%. Within the past two years, the Library has added educational film to its collection. In 1953-54, 553 films were loaned, and these were viewed by 30,551 persons, compared with 170 loaned and seen by 11,117 in 1952-53. A total of 6,048 phonograph records were loaned for home use in 1953-54, compared with 1,398 during the previous year.

QUESTIONS ASKED BY PATRONS many times are responsible for the loan of books or other library materials. The library staff counted 15,914 questions, and no doubt many others were answered but